

of organizations which provide vital services to people throughout Metro Detroit, including Community Caring, United Way of Southeast Michigan, and Care House. He is especially proud of the work done by Community Caring, which provides eyeglasses to children whose parents cannot afford to purchase them, and provides Christmas presents to children who would otherwise not receive them.

I have no doubt that Chuck's wife, Joyce; his children Alicia, Charles II, and Jason; and his grandchildren Savannah and Charley will welcome the opportunity to spend more time with him during his retirement. I am confident that Chuck, an avid bowler, will look to add to his incredible 13 sanctioned perfect 300 games at the blowing alley.

Mr. Speaker, I have worked closely with Chuck throughout his 8 years as Director of Region 1, and like so many in public life and in the labor movement, I have been deeply grateful for his wise counsel on many issues and for his friendship. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chuck Hall for his 46 years of service to the men and women of the UAW, and in wishing him well in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on roll call No. 168. Had I been present to vote on roll call No. 168, I would have voted 'YEA'.

SAMUEAL HAYS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samueal Hays for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Samueal Hays is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samueal Hays is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samueal Hays for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING JOE EDDIE HAWKINS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary community pioneer, Mr. Joe Eddie Hawkins.

Joe Eddie Hawkins was born on September 21, 1953 and is still as strong in his beliefs and empathetic of the many insurmountable problems and issues that have troubled his heart for many years regarding his community and Tunica County. Yet, some are better and some are still much alive, but he continues to "PUSH" forward. Joe once asked the questions "Are 'leaders' made or born?" He said that "Leaders are born." Joe has been one of the most visible leaders and spokespersons to fight against injustice and inequality for a long saga for: better and affordable housing; better health care and of course, a better education for all; so children can read and write to help empower themselves to succeed in the world of work.

Joe was a 1971 graduate of Rosa Fort High School, located in Tunica Mississippi. Here he met Rose Mary Huddleston, then he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps to continue to serve others and his country, but he was injured and received an Honorable Discharge.

Joe later married Rose in 1974, a woman of intellectual strength, God fearing and of radical faith. Four daughters were born: Ayanna, Rasheda, Jo Yarketta and Henrietta. Being a leader and even with his disabilities; he continued to persevere and received an Associate Degree in Drafting and Designing from Northwest Mississippi Junior College (NWMJC).

Joe has been a community philanthropist and on a mission for over thirty years with also great concerns about the needs and poverty of other countries and other parts of the world.

After graduating from NWMJC; Joe took on the challenge and decided to work in Tunica for the Department of Human Services (DHS) as an Eligibility Worker. Joe made home visits throughout the county and he became more aware of the great needs for housing and how many poor and underprivileged families were seen. He was very disheartened and disturbed by his observations. Joe began his work as a leader and met with other concerned citizens of this county to help solve the problems of poor housing and gruesome unsanitary conditions.

In the year of 1986, Joe was one of the pioneers of the Sugar Ditch Saga that helped the families with their transition and orchestration to 17 Trailer Houses in the Sear's Subdivision that were generated by Federal Funds. He has also written grants to build low income families better homes and aided with self-build homes for this community. A charter grant was received from USA of Africa. With the funds, Joe was instrumental in building a community store located in White Oak Subdivision by Tunica County residents of skilled builders. Jobs and skills were provided to the community and also the store is still being a benefit to the community.

In 1986, Joe was the founder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Commemorative Services. The dream is ongoing with its success. This year the 32nd Commemorative Program was celebrated.

Joe has received many awards of his outstanding recognition for his service to this community. He continues to serve his county, but during a different mission: Lifetime Award: Lifetime Achievement Award from Concerned Citizens for a Better Tunica Co., Inc. / Tunica Teens In Action; Dedication and Hard Work: Many contributions for the community and of Tunica County. Serving: In the Name of Allah: the Beneficent, The Merciful Minister James Muhammad and The Nation of Islam; The County of Tunica; The State of Mississippi; The USA and The Nation of Islam. FREEDOM: (Black History and Spirit Award); Recognition of Dedication: Contribution as a Pioneer for Justice and Equality for a Better Community of Tunica County.

On January 3, 2012, Mr. Joe Hawkins was appointed to serve as Tunica County Road Manager by the Tunica County Board of Supervisors. He also serves as the Secretary and Treasurer for the Mississippi Association of County Road Managers, where he is a very active member. During his time as Tunica County Road Manager, Mr. Hawkins has done several things to continue to help make his community a better place:

1. He started a Second Change Program which allow for individuals who have been felons to be given an opportunity to work as he mentors them on the job.

2. He convinced the Board of Supervisor that all of his men deserve to get paid a living wage so they can adequately take care of their families.

3. Mr. Hawkins made sure all of his workers receive their proper retirement benefits for those who worked for the county over 20 years.

He has also received many calls, correspondences and verbal encounters for the services that he and his staff rendered; especially executing the safety of the roads, due to his caring heart.

Joe states, "In order to be a strong black man, unwavering in his faith and vision as a leader; to fulfill his calling; hear the 'cry of the poor'; he must be non-fearing to man, but God fearing; then I can lead my people." Psalm 41: 1 states: "Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble." Regardless of Joe's physical disabilities, his dedication and true commitment to God; God has sustained him to continue the fight with momentum. The battle is not over yet for Joe; he is now fighting with other county residents for a new high school.

Tunica will seem to have many undefeatable problems, but together they are pushing forward to beat the enemy down. Philippians 3:13 states: (b): "But this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Joe Eddie Hawkins as an amazing trailblazer who is goal oriented and making a difference in his community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 167.